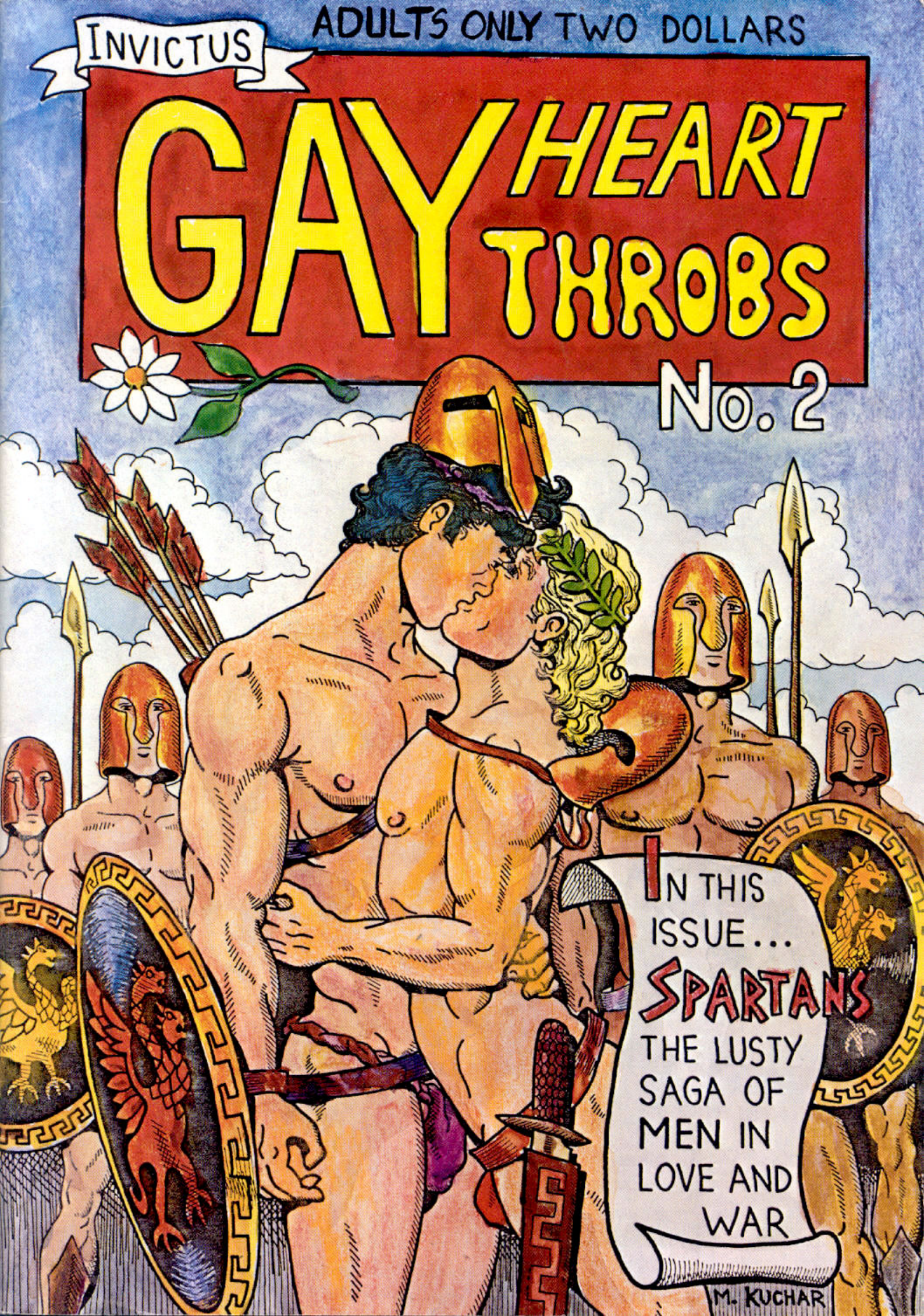
INVICTUS
ADULTS ONLY TWO DOLLARS
GAY HEART THROBS
No. 2
IN THIS ISSUE...
SPARTANS
THE LUSTY SAGA OF MEN IN LOVE AND WAR
M. KUCHAR

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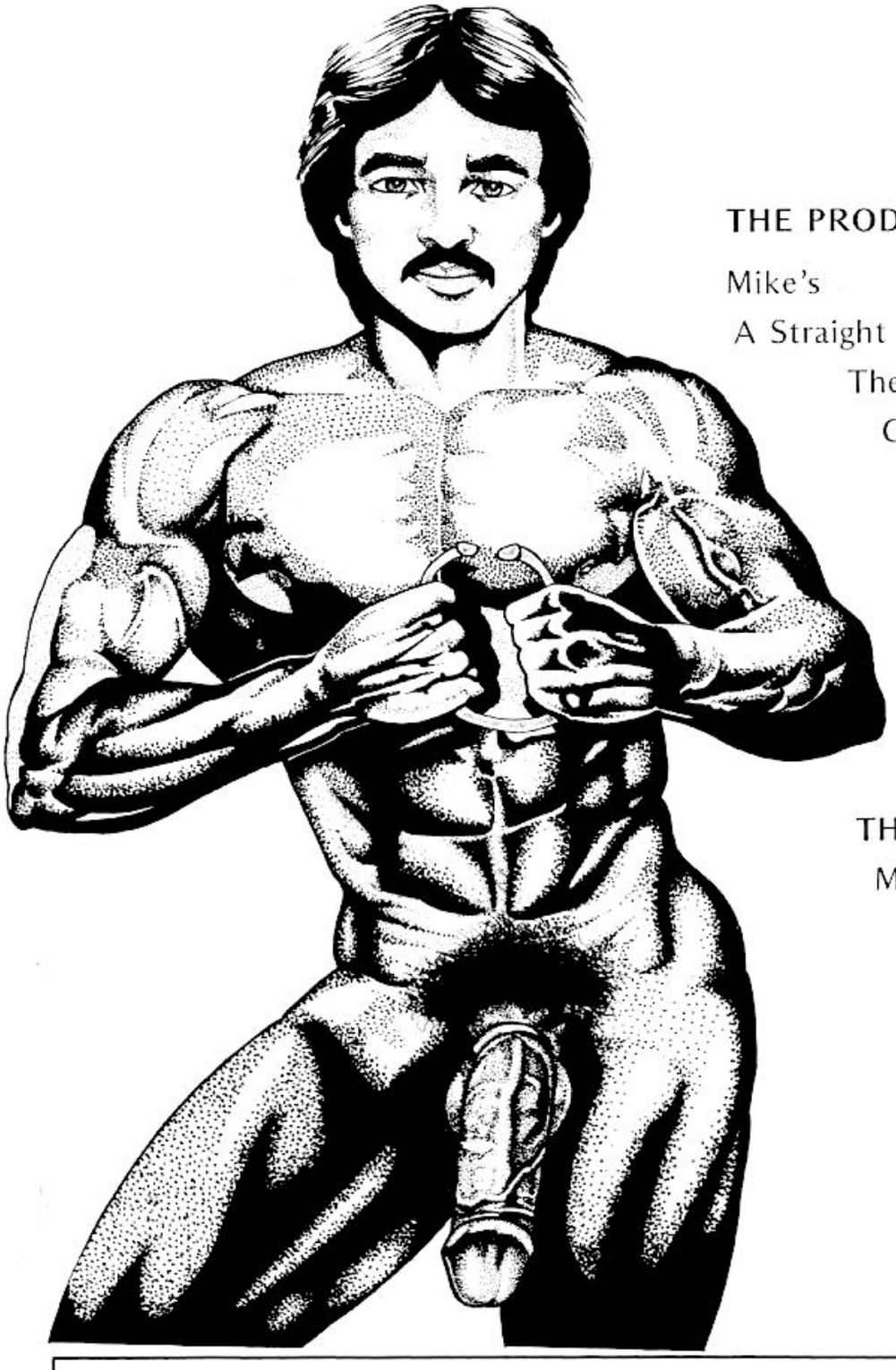

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Wiley Spade
Dan Bold
Ericuus Ashfil
Puget Sounder
C. C. Remington
Larry Fuller

MENTOR

Yves LaFitte

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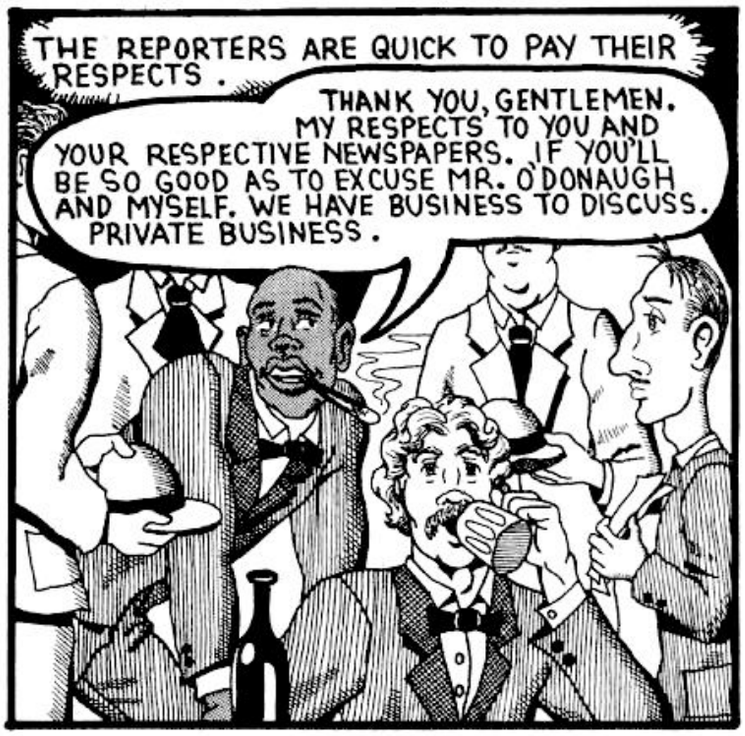
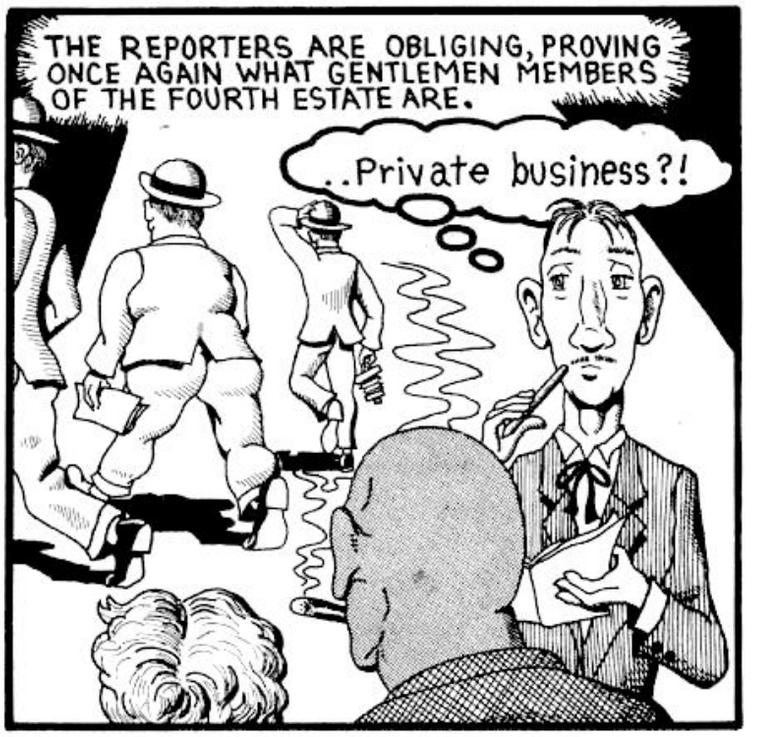
MIKE'S
artist: Mike kuchar
Writer: Puget Sounder
MIKE O'DONAUGH, BORN IN DUBLIN IN 1872, HAS BEEN RETIRED FROM THE RING AT THE TENDER AGE OF 35 BY A COMBINATION RIGHT, LEFT HOOK AND RIGHT DELIVERED BY THE DANCER-FIGHTER, MR. JACKSON. BUT IT WAS ONLY A MATTER OF TIME AND HE HAS NO RESENTMENT. MIKE HAS USED HIS SAVINGS TO BUY THIS BAR AND IS ENTERTAINING SOME REPORTER CRONIES HE HAS GOTTEN TO KNOW OVER THE YEARS.
HOW COME YOU CALL HIM MR. JACKSON? SOME SAY JACKSON SHOULD GO BACK TO PICKING COTTEN.
ANYONE WHO PACKS A PUNCH LIKE HE DOES IS A MISTER TO ME. I GOT A LOT OF RESPECT FOR 'OL TAR SKIN.
TOP 'O-THE MORNING TO YOU, MR. JACKSON.
Oops! Speaking of the Devil.
A GOOD EVENING TO YOU, MR. O'DONAUGH. DON'T YOUR FRIENDS RISE WHEN THE CHAMPION WALKS IN?


THE REPORTERS ARE QUICK TO PAY THEIR RESPECTS.
THANK YOU, GENTLEMEN. MY RESPECTS TO YOU AND YOUR RESPECTIVE NEWSPAPERS. IF YOU'LL BE SO GOOD AS TO EXCUSE MR. O'DONAUGH AND MYSELF. WE HAVE BUSINESS TO DISCUSS. PRIVATE BUSINESS.

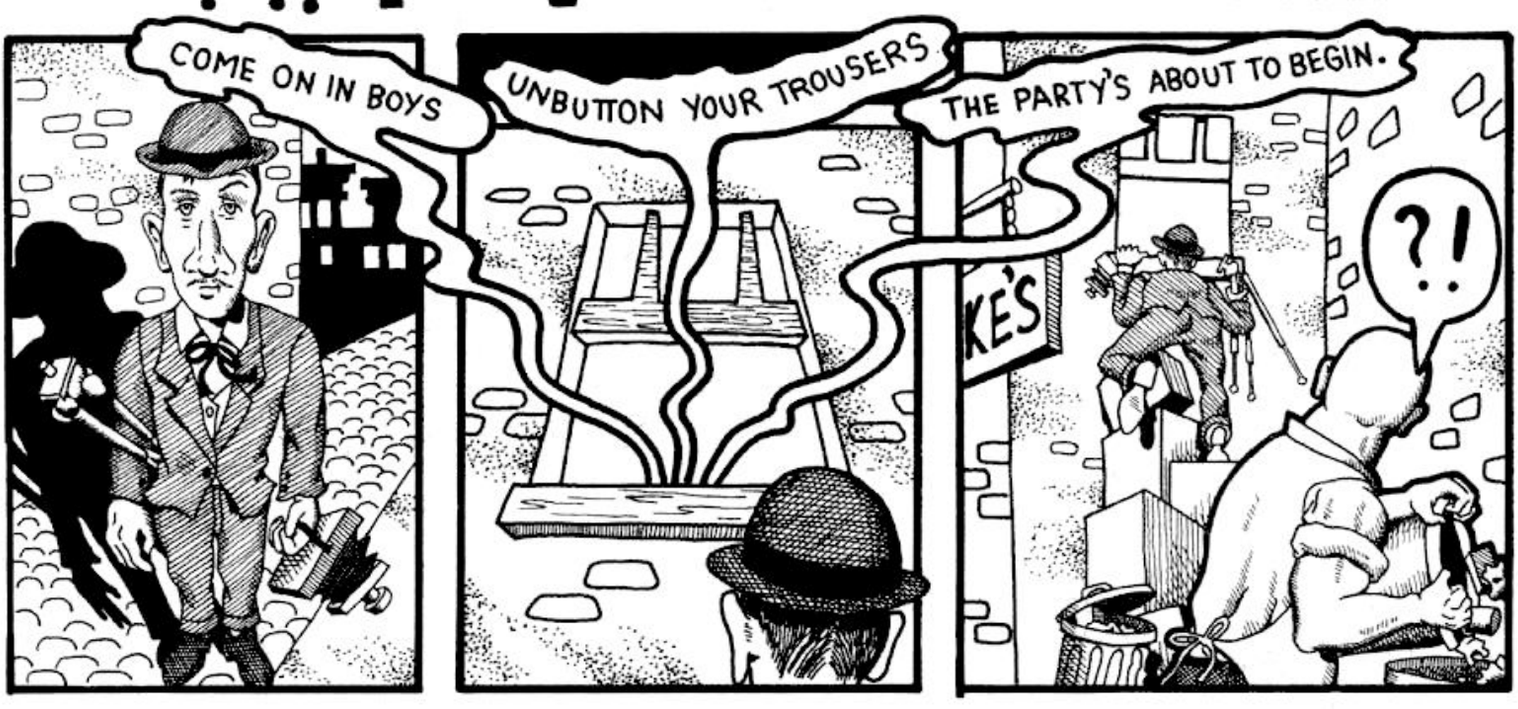

THE REPORTERS ARE OBLIGING, PROVING ONCE AGAIN WHAT GENTLEMEN MEMBERS OF THE FOURTH ESTATE ARE.
..Private business?!

IT WAS RIGHT DECENT OF YOU TO PUT UP THAT EXTRA THOUSAND I NEEDED SO I COULD BUY THIS PLACE. IT'LL MAKE A GREAT PARTNERSHIP.
I SHALL HAVE TO REMAIN A SILENT PARTNER, MR. O'DONAUGH. YOU KNOW HOW PEOPLE FEEL. IN ANY CASE, I DIDN'T COME HERE TO TALK BUSINESS TONIGHT, WHATEVER I SAID TO THOSE REPORTERS.
I smell a story.
SNIFF SNIFF
OFFI

MIKES
Good LORD! Just as I suspected
WINE
SLURP
SQUISH
WE GOT A GREAT PARTNERSHIP GOING MISTER JACKSON
'Gulp'
filthy sick fiends!

YOUNG ROBERTS THINKS HE'S SCOOPED EVERY NEWSPAPER IN TOWN. THE EDITOR EXPLAINS THE FACTS OF LIFE OF THE NEWSPAPER BUSINESS.

ROBERTS WANTS TO MAKE HIS MARK IN THE NEWSPAPER WORLD.



I FOUND THIS FISHBAIT OUTSIDE WITH A CAMERA.
What the..?!
Hey?!
I CAN EXPLAIN EVERYTHING.. BUT FIRST I'D LIKE TO GO OUT FOR A CUP OF COFFEE.
GLANK
PLOP

HOW NICE OF YOU TO BRING YOUR CAMERA. WE CAN'T LET YOU GO WITHOUT A PICTURE.
BE GENTLE WITH HIM. WE WANNA KEEP THIS FRIENDLY. ARE MY BICEPS PHOTOGENIC ?
CAN'T WE POP HIS CHERRY ?
DAMN YOU COCK, GET DOWN !
NO GENTLEMEN. WE HAVE TO RESPECT HIS TASTES. HE MIGHT PREFER WOMEN.
THAT'S DUBIOUS. HAVE YOU NOTICED HIS RISING THERMOMETER ?
OK BOYS, SPREAD A SMILE ON THOSE KISSERS AND A WINK TO THE BELLY BUTTON.
CLIC
I'LL JUST HOLD ON TO THIS PICTURE.
NO STORY. I'LL LOSE MY JOB.
WE WOULDN'T WISH THAT, YOUNG FELLOW. PERHAPS THERE IS A STORY YOU COULD DO.

THE GIRLS COME OFF THE SHIPS STRAIGHT FROM IRELAND TO WORK AS CLEANING MAIDS. THE CHINESE VICE-LORDS KIDNAP A LOT OF 'EM TO SEND BACK TO CHINA WHOREHOUSES. BEEN MEANING TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT.
A VERY DISTASTE-FUL TRADE. NEXT THING YOU KNOW THEY'LL BE KIDNAP-PING MY KINWOMEN.
YOU WILL BE AS TO COOP- I WILL HAVE PENETRATE HE PREFERS HAS BEEN KNOWN SOIL WOMEN.
SO GOOD ERATE OR CHEN YOU. MEN BUT TO
PUFF
I'M BLIND!
CLICK
SMILE!
MY EYES!

EXCUSE MY BIG FEET...
BUT THEY ARE GOOD...
FOR STEPPING ON BUGS !
SHOW A LITTLE CHEESE CAKE GIRLS !
SENSATIONAL!
San Francisco Dail
EXCLUSIVE STORY
WHITE SLAV
RING EXPOSED
TODAY
EDITOR
IT'S ALL FRONT PAGE MATERIAL ! YOU DID FINE WITH THE KID, MR. JACKSON. I KNEW HE HAD THE STUFF, HE JUST NEEDED A DIRECTION. THANKS FOR STRAIGHTENING HIM OUT.
WELL, I'M NOT QUITE SURE HE'S ALL THAT STRAIGHT !
THE END

WHERE CAN YOU FIND
GAY HEARTHROBS?

Everywhere you go!

See inside front cover for ordering information.

GAY HEART THROBS

"TEE HEE HEE"

Yes, this is it, folks!

The one, the only, authentic, original GAY HEART THROBS Comic Book, Volume II.

Out of the closet, up from the underground and into your proverbial hot littles.

Welcome.

In this titillatingly timely tome, you'll find stories of pride and passion, love and lust, greed, nobility, duty and just plain old bewilderment. All lusciously illustrated.

What you won't find are displays of self-righteous breastbeating, soap boxing or hard line propaganda. No statistics or "expert opinions", pro or con, will be trotted out.

This book was made to entertain; not to polarize, antagonize or proselytize.

Our motto is: You may have come with a frown, but we hope you leave with a smile.

Thank you,

Larry Fuller, Editor and Publisher

I WAS EIGHTEEN. I WAS TWO WOMEN PAST VIRGINITY AND I WAS READY FOR NUMBER THREE! I WAS....

A STRAIGHT ON THE MAKE AT A Gay Party

A TRUE STORY OF MULTI-SEXUAL LUST!

STORY AND ART: AREOLA CORONA © 1978

MIDWEST, U.S.A. 1968. I HAD JUST MOVED OUT OF MY PARENTS' HOUSE A COUPLE OF MONTHS BEFORE. I RENTED A ROOM IN A BOARDING HOUSE.

UP THE STEPS, THROUGH THE SCREENED PORCH AND INTO THE LOBBY — MY ROOM WAS FIRST ON THE LEFT. THE DOOR STRAIGHT AHEAD LED TO THE APARTMENT RENTED BY THE HOSTESS OF THE PARTY, **JUNE**.

UPSTAIRS THE FRONT ROOM WAS VACANT. IN THE NEXT ROOM WAS A MAN IN HIS 60's WITH A HEARING AID. ACROSS THE HALL FROM THE BATHROOM LIVED **JEREMY**, A BI-SEXUAL PSEUDO-INTELLECTUAL

BEYOND THE KITCHEN WAS A PORCH CONVERTED INTO A "ROOM" WHERE MY GIRLFRIEND **TRACY** LIVED.

JUNE HAD GONE TO THE ART INSTITUTE AND SEEMED TO KNOW EVERY HOMOSEXUAL THERE....

NOTE: THIS IS ONLY THE BATHROOM!

DAVID, A FRIEND FROM HER HOMETOWN, WAS VISITING.

THERE WAS STEVE....

....AN OLDER GUY NAMED LARRY....

....I'D BEEN IN AN ART CLASS WITH HIM....GOD, HE **COULDN'T** BE QUEER —HE'D BEEN **MARRIED!!**

THE MOST ATTRACTIVE MAN THERE WAS **PATRICK**, A FRIEND OF JEREMY'S.

IF I **HAD** BEEN INTERESTED IN MAKING IT WITH A MAN, IT WOULD'VE BEEN HIM.

THERE WAS ONE MALE THAT I WAS PRETTY SURE WAS STRAIGHT: JAN'S BOYFRIEND **CHET**....

....ONE THING I KNEW POSITIVELY HE WAS—A **JERK!**

THIS PARTY WAS DEFINITELY OVER—BALANCED IN FAVOR OF MEN. IN FACT, THERE WERE ONLY **FOUR** WOMEN THERE ALL NIGHT. **JUNE**, TWENTY-ONE YEARS OLD. HER FAVORITE DRUG WAS BOOZE. (IT DIDN'T TAX HER BRAIN.) I HAD COERCED HER INTO TAKING MY VIRGINITY A FEW WEEKS EARLIER.

SHE HAD EYES LIKE **NATALIE WOOD**....

DOUG CLARK AND THE HOT NUTS

....SAW THEM THEY CAME OUT IN TRANSPARENT RED RAINCOATS AND FUR JOCKEY STRAPS!

....AND A BODY LIKE A **HIPPO!**

MARSHA, WHO WAS HOPELESSLY IN LOVE WITH STEVE....

....AND THE BEST THING THAT COULD BE SAID ABOUT HER LOOKS WAS THAT SHE VAGUELY RESEMBLED JOHN SEBASTIAN!

NAN, WHO'D COME WITH CHET.

SHE HAD A SENSUOUS LOWER LIP. SHE HAD SPARK! SHE HAD A BOTTLE OF **JACK DANIELS** TUCKED IN HER PANTS!

AND THEN THERE WAS **HER**....

....**JULIE!**

SHE'D COME WITH STEVE.

SHE HAD BLUE EYES AND BLOND HAIR CUT LIKE A BOY'S.

SHE RUBBED HER THIGH AGAINST MY CROTCH WHICH SWELLED OBLIGINGLY. SHE SAID SHE LIKED THE WAY I SMELLED*

* I HAD TAKEN MESCALINE THE NIGHT BEFORE AND SWEAT IT OUT DANCING.

SHE SEEMED MORE INTERESTED IN NAN THOUGH....

IS THERE A ROOM WHERE WE CAN GO? WE COULD DO A DAISY CHAIN!
I DIDN'T KNOW EXACTLY WHAT A "DAISY CHAIN" WAS, BUT IT SOUNDED AN AWFUL LOT LIKE AN ORGY TO ME, SO I TOOK NAN, JULIE AND A SECOND MAN UPSTAIRS....
SINCE MY GIRLFRIEND TRACY WAS SPENDING THE WEEK-END AT HER PARENTS HOUSE I TOOK THEM TO TO HER ROOM. THE ROOM WAS SMALL, THE FLOOR SLANTED AND THE DOOR AND LOCK WERE A JOKE BUT WE WERE HOT AND HUNGRY TO TOUCH!
WAR IS NOT HEALTHY FOR CHILDREN AND OTHER LIVING
I DON'T KNOW WHAT THE OTHER FELLOW WAS DOING....HE SEEMED TO FADE INTO THE BACKGROUND. MYSELF, I WAS CONSUMED BY THE LUST-FIRE OF FINGERING TWO WET LITTLE PUSSIES AT ONCE!!

SUDDENLY THAT SACRED MOMENT WAS SHATTERED AS CHET, JUNE'S MORONIC STUD, BURST INTO THE ROOM!

....APPARENTLY HE HAD TRAILED NAN UP. LEARING, HE INVITED HIMSELF IN.

LUCKILY HOWEVER, JUNE HAD FOLLOWED HIM AND CAUGHT UP JUST AS HE WAS DROPPING HIS PANTS.

STUNNED AND CONFUSED. SHE BROKE INTO TEARS AND RAN. CHET WENT AFTER TRYING TO SMOOTH HER.

THE REST OF US, OUR MOOD VIOLENTLY DISTURBED, BEGAN DRESSING QUICKLY.

JULIE AND I LINGERED TO LOOK FOR HER CUFF-LINKS AND I GOT BETTER AQUAINTED WITH THE WOMAN I HAD JUST BEEN FINGER-FUCKING. SHE WAS TWENTY-FIVE. (SHE WAS SHOCKED WHEN I TOLD HER I WAS EIGHTEEN!) SHE WAS A SCHOOL TEACHER.

I WAITED FOR HER WHILE SHE MADE A CALL ON THE PAY PHONE IN THE HALL

....YES, DEAR.... ....OKAY, HONEY.... ...YES, ALRIGHT... ....I WILL....

JESUS! HER OLD MAN SURE HAS HER "HEN-PECKED"!

"HEN-PECKED" INDEED! AT THAT POINT I WAS STILL TOO NAIVE TO SEE THAT HER "OLD MAN" WAS A WOMAN!

WE MADE FRESH DRINKS....

DO YOU HAVE ANY GRASS? I'D LOVE TO SMOKE A JOINT!

SO WE WENT TO MY ROOM. IT WAS RIGHT NEXT TO THE PARTY BUT IT HAD A SECURE LOCK!

JULIE'S BREASTS WERE TINY BUT THE NIPPLES WERE ALMOST AN INCH LONG — I WAS FASCINATED!

YOU'VE GOT....

GREAT TITS!

....THE MOST UNUSUAL NIPPLES I'VE EVER SEEN!

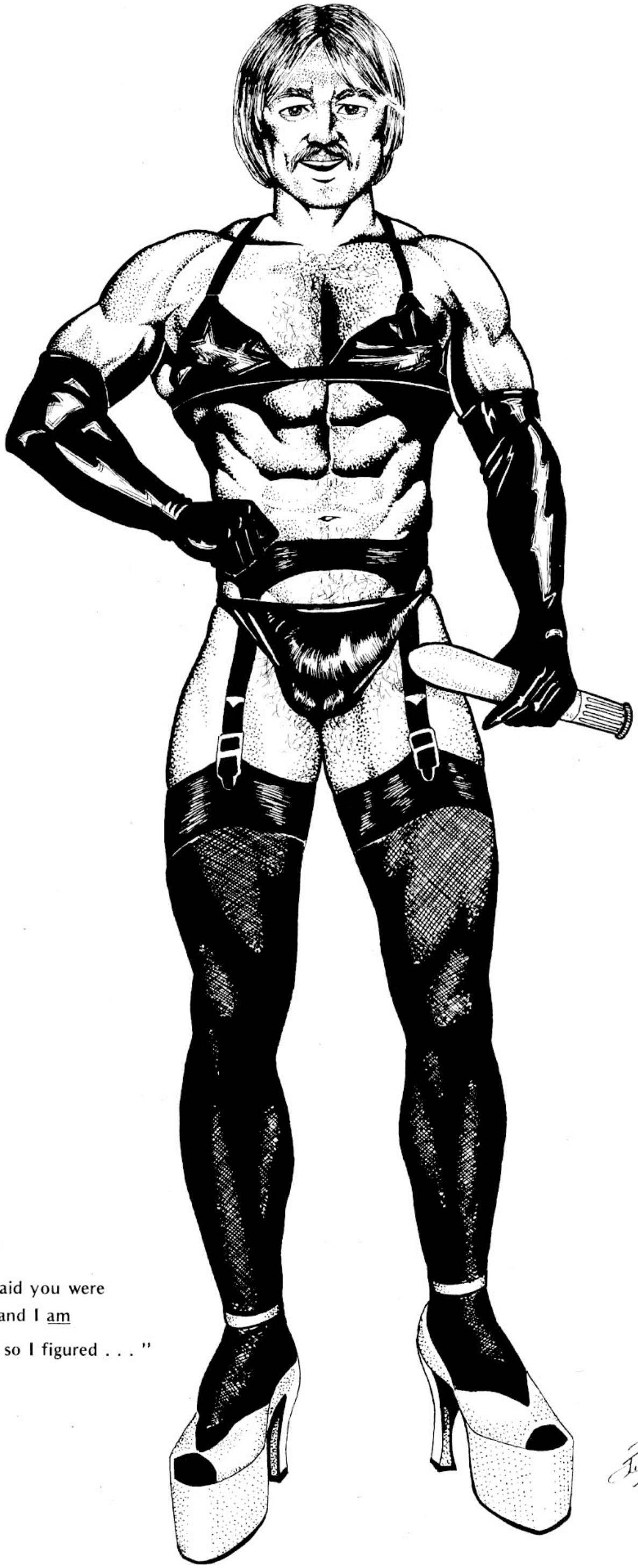
YEAH!

....HER CUNT WAS BLOND AND TIGHT AND CLEAN....
BE REAL CAREFUL TO PULL OUT BEFORE YOU COME!!
I JUST CAN'T GET PREGNANT!*
*SHE SAID SHE WAS BI-SEXUAL BUT I GATHERED SHE DIDN'T BALL MEN OFTEN AND GETTING KNOCKED-UP WOULD BE A DEAD GIVE-AWAY TO HER JEALOUS LOVER, MARIE!
BABY!
SHE FUCKED ME UNTIL I COULD HARDLY WALK!
FUCK ME!
I LAY BACK AND DRIFTED PEACEFULLY OFF....
....BUT NOT JULIE! THE LAST TIME I SAW HER SHE WAS HEADED UPSTAIRS TO THE VACANT ROOM WITH DAVID, STEVE AND JUNE! I NEVER SAW HER AGAIN BUT I'LL NEVER FORGET HER AS LONG AS I LIVE!!
The End
WHAT'S THAT YOU SAY? YOU WANT MORE? YOU WERE EXPECTING MORE GAY SEX? WELL....OKAY, LETS TAKE A QUICK LOOK AT JULIE AND COMPANY. BUT REMEMBER, I'M ASLEEP....THIS STORY IS REALLY OVER.... THIS PART IS STRICILY CONJECTURE!

"The DREAM Machine"
OUR STORY BEGINS AS RICKY PRINCE RETURNS FROM THE READING OF A LATE "UNCLE'S" WILL AND COLLECTING THE $10,000 BEQUEATHED HIM. ENROUTE, HE HAS STOPPED AND MADE A "SLIGHTLY EXPENSIVE" BUY, OVER WHICH HE IS GOING TO HAVE A TIFF WITH DION DEL BUONO, HIS LONG TIME LOVE....
BOY, DION, HAVE I EVER GOT A SURPRISE FOR YOU!! JUST WAIT'LL YOU GIT A GANDER AT IT! YOU'LL LOVE IT!
THE ONLY THING THAT'LL SURPRISE ME, RICKY IS THE CONTINUED STUPIDITY YOU EXERCISE IN BUYING FOOLISH THINGS. I THOUGHT YOU WERE GOING TO PUT THE MONEY AWAY FOR OUR TRIP TO ITALY.
WRITTEN BY
CARRY FULLER
ARTIST...
DAN BOLD
OH DON'T WORRY SO MUCH, DION. I DIDN'T SPEND THE WHOLE $10,000.00. I PUT SOME AWAY. BUT, BEFORE I GOT TO THE BANK I FOUND THIS DELIGHTFUL LITTLE GIFT SHOP AND I JUST COULD NOT RESIST THIS MARVELOUS LITTLE ITEM. JUST WAIT 'TILL YOU SEE IT.
IF IT'S ANYTHING LIKE YOUR OTHER MARVELOUS LITTLE ITEMS, I DON'T THINK I EVEN WANT TO LOOK AT IT. HOW MUCH DID IT COST?!!
WELL, YOU SEE, I, ER... THAT IS, UH, I---UH...
COME ON, RICHARD! HOW MUCH DID IT COST?!
NINETY TWO HUNDRED.
NINETY TWO HUNDRED DOLLARS! MAMA MIA, RICHARD, HAVE YOU TAKEN LEAVE OF YOUR ALLEGED SENSES! WHAT DID YOU GET?, THE CROWN JEWELS'
NO, MY FIERY LOVE, SOMETHING EVEN BETTER! LOOK!

IT'S CALLED THE "DREAM MACHINE", MADE BY A QUACK PROFESSOR WHO SPECIALIZES IN THE UNUSUAL! IT ALLOWS THE USER TO DREAM—SELECTIVELY—AT GREAT LENGTH—ABOUT ANYTHING HE WANTS! IT'S PREPROGRAMMED TO ADJUST TO THE DREAMER'S PSYCHE! IT'S GREAT FUN AND PERFECTLY HARMLESS!
I--- JUST--- DONT--- BELIEVE --- THIS. THIS MORNING, HE WAS PERFECTLY SANE WHEN HE LEFT HERE! WHAT COULD'VE HAPPENED?
LOOK, DI, I KNOW YOU THINK ITS CRAZY AND A WASTE OF GOOD MONEY, BUT IT ISN'T. I KNOW. IVE TRIED IT. I WANT YOU TO! OKAY? PLEASE!
OKAY, RICKY OKAY. BUT-- BUT-- NINETY-TWO HUN--
NO BUTS. NOW GO LIE DOWN ON THE BED. I'LL GET IT SET UP!
THE DREAM MACHINE IS BETTER THAN ALCOHOL, TOBEACO AND DOPE COMBINED. IT WILL GIVE YOU EXACTLY WHAT YOU WANT. I ONLY HOPE YOU CAN STAND IT, DION. READY?!
YES, I GUESS SO.
WILD GARDEN SYNDROME
WHERE IS THESE PLACE? IT'S BEAUTIFUL!
WHAT'S THAT? SOUNDS LIKE---
WOW!
THIS IS SOME KINDA PLACE!!
OOOOPS!
EXCUSE ME, FELLAS IM SORRY I DIDNT SEE YOU. ITS MY FIRST TIME HERE AND I---
---WAIT! I SAID I WAS SORRY. OH WELL, THEY RAN AWAY AND DOESNT LOOK LIKE I'LL EVER MAKE ANY---
2

CONTACT!
OH BOY! I AM CLUMSY TODAY! EX-EXCUSE ME! I DIDNT MEAN---!
HELP!
OH GOD NO! HE'S AFTER ME!
HE'S--- PUFF PUFF--- GAININ G!
OH NO!
WOOOWW!! NOW I CAN SEE WHAT MADE RICKY DO WHAT HE DID! I THINK IM GOING TO---!
RICKY! YOU DID THAT ON PURPOSE! I WAS JUST COMING TO THE BEST PART!
YEAH--- I KNOW, BUT I JUST COULDNT STAND THE SIGHT OF THAT BIG GORILLA MAKING LOVE TO YOU. I JUST COULDNT!!
UH-UH, I GUESS SO!
WHY, RICKY, YOU'RE JEALOUS?!!
SILLY BOY!! AND I JUST LOVE YOU FOR IT.
BESIDES, THERE'LL BE OTHER TIMES!
THE END



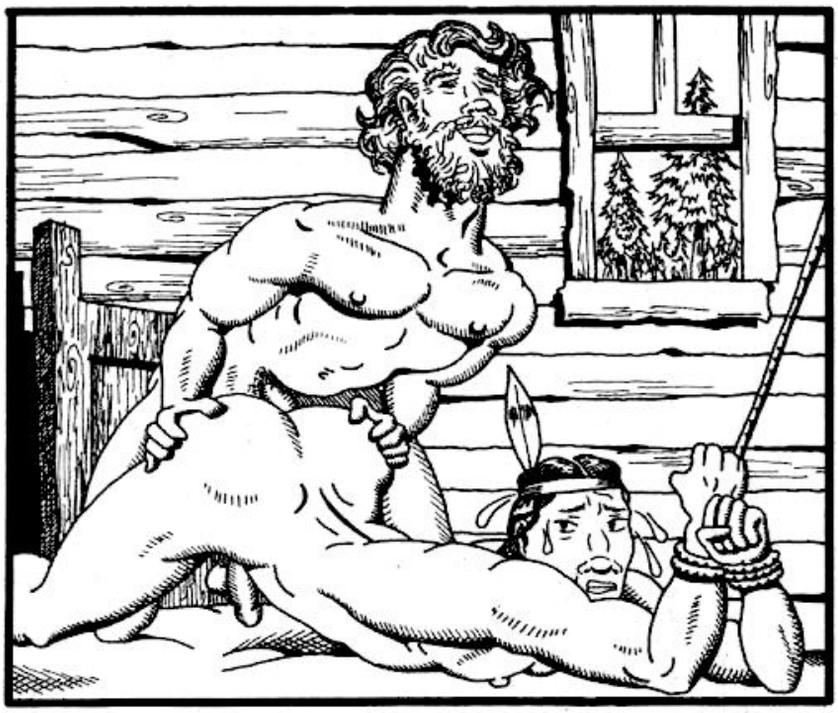
"Well, you said you were
an adult, and I <u>am</u>
consenting, so I figured . . . "

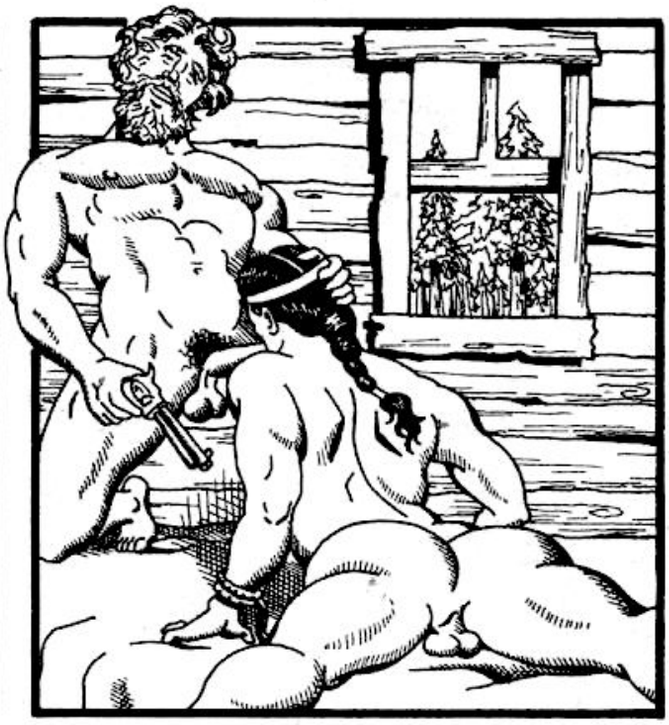
F. DAVIS
-79-

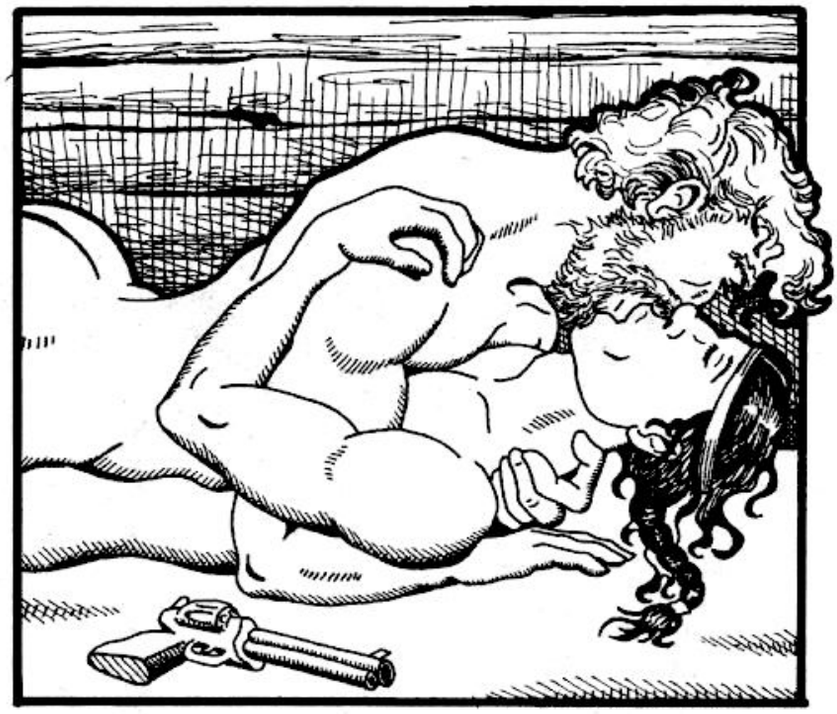
1840

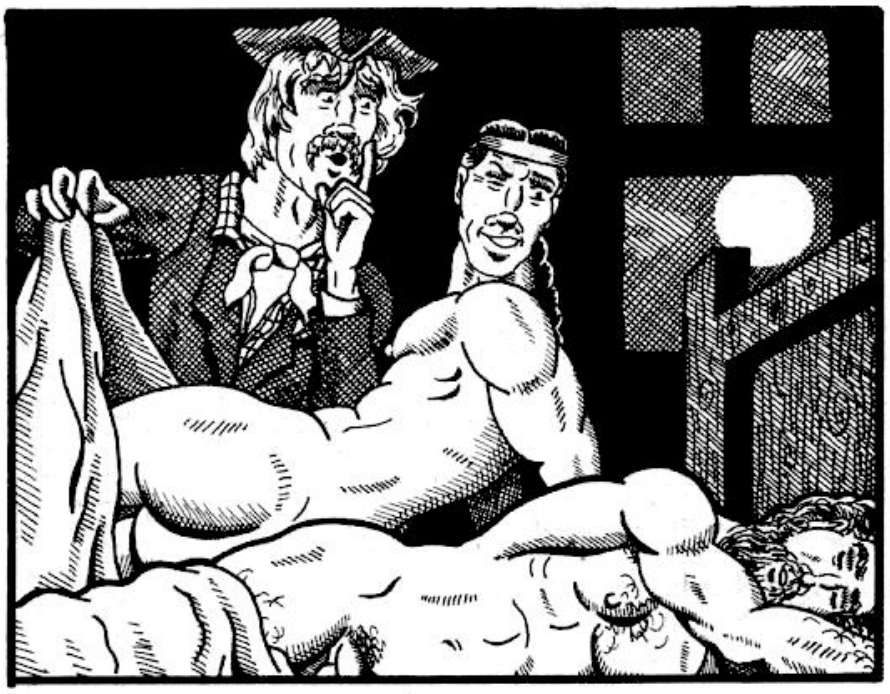
ARTIST: MIKE KUCHAR

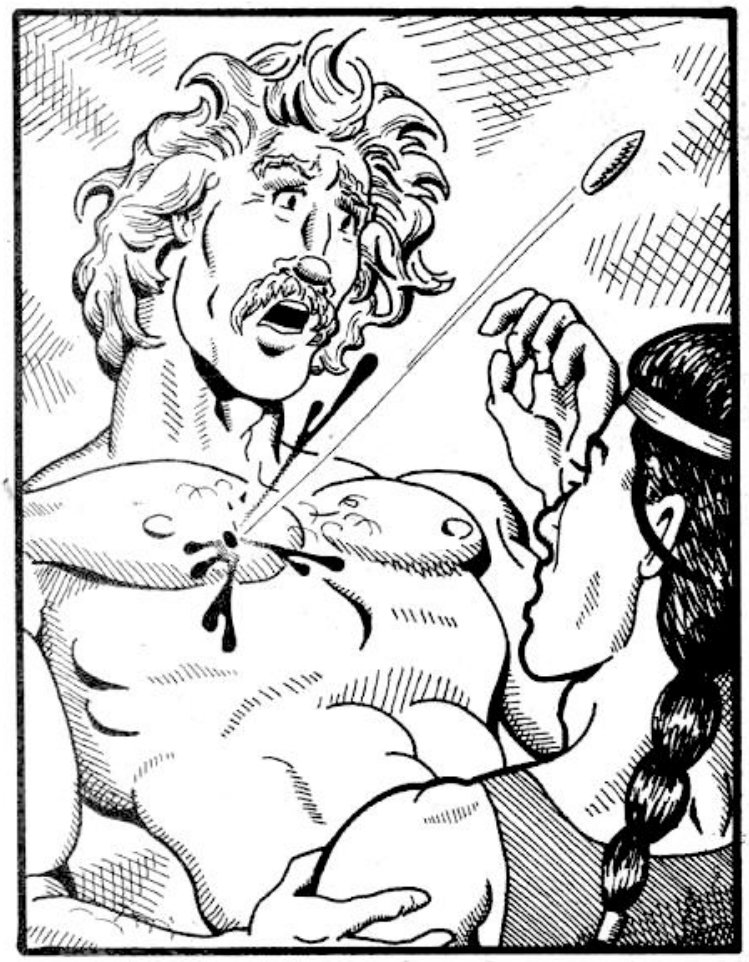
CONCEPT: C.C. REMINGTON

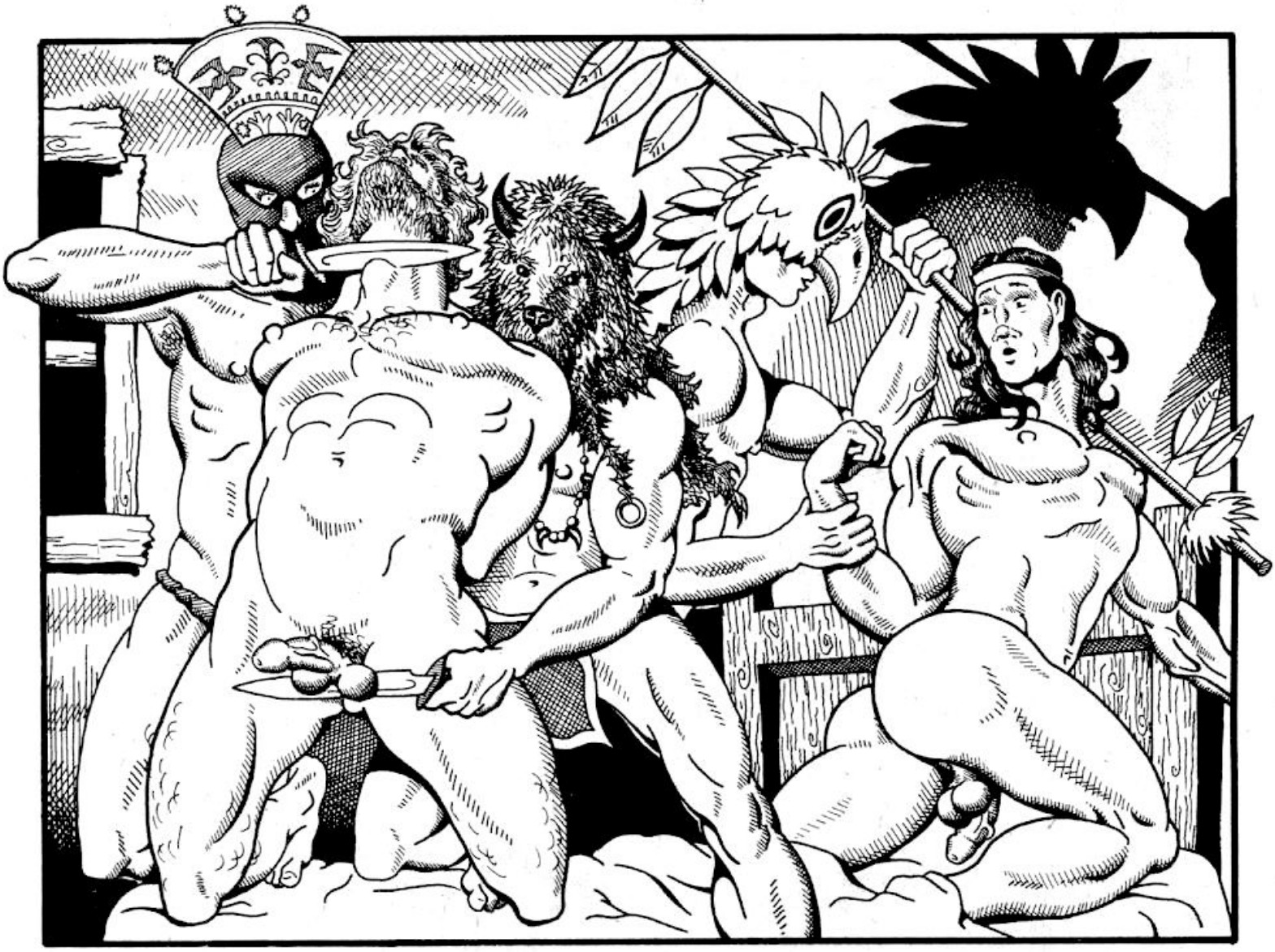


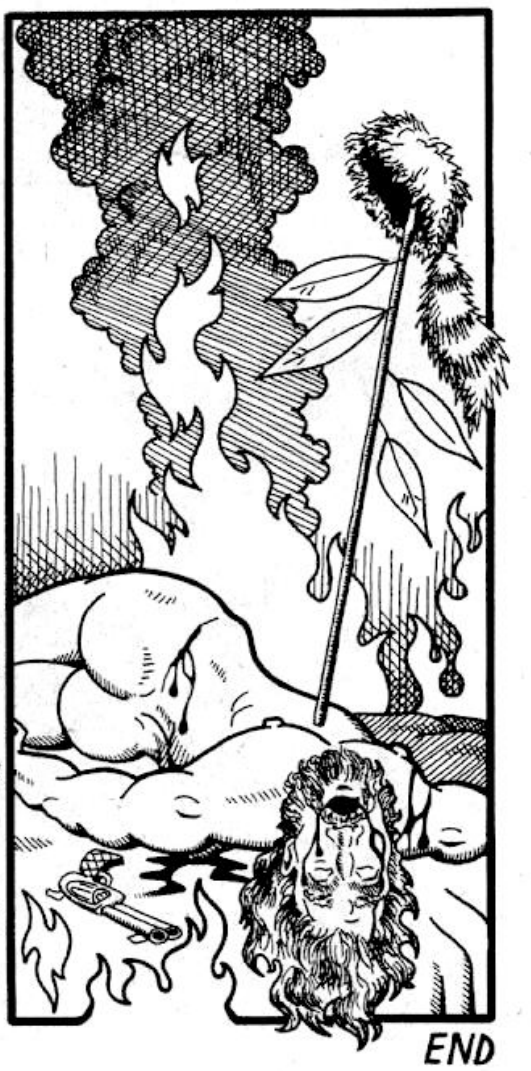












END

Broadway Buddie Comes Out
I SUPPOSE I SHOULD'VE BEEN HAPPY! I HAD STEADY WORK, GOOD FRIENDS, AND THE BEST LOOKING GIRL IN THE VILLAGE, WHO THOUGHT I WAS A GIFT FROM THE ALMIGHTY..
H'LO, FRANCINE!
HI, DARLIN'!
...BUT LIKE MOST FOOLS, I THOUGHT LIFE OWED ME MUCH MORE THAN I WAS GETTING...
I-IT'S NOTHING, FRAN... IT'S BEEN A LONG DAY AND I'M KINDA TIRED!
BUDDIE, YOU LOOK SO UNHAPPY... WHAT'S THE MATTER, HONEY?
ESPECIALLY WHEN THE WEALTHY TOURISTS CAME TO OUR HUMBLE VILLAGE!
JUST LOOK AT THEM! SO SURE OF THEMSELVES... AS IF THEY LIVED IN ANOTHER WORLD! WHAT A SHODDY LIFE WE LIVE IN COMPARISON!
OH, SWEETHEART, I'VE MISSED YOU SO!

THERE'S A FISH FRY DOWN AT THE BEACH TONIGHT! RAY'S INVITED US!
GOOD OL' RAY! THAT WILL MEAN ANOTHER ONE OF HIS DISCOURSES ON THE WONDERS OF HIS CREATIVE MIND! I SUPPOSE THE INEVITABLE BAND OF LOCALS WILL BE PRESENT?..
IT'S ALWAYS SO! THE SAME FACES! IF I HAVE TO LISTEN ONCE MORE TO LARRY COMPLAIN ABOUT HIS TWO JOBS, OR THE "GREAT" JAMES JUMP OVER ONE MORE TABLE...
I...ER.. SUPPOSE SO!...
B-BUT THEY'RE ALL OUR FRIENDS... WE'VE KNOWN THEM SINCE WE MOVED HERE!
AND ABSO- -LUTELY NOTHING HAS CHANGED! WE JUST PERPETUATE THE SAME ENDLESS RUT!
BUDDIE, WHAT'S BOTHERING YOU? YOU'VE GOT ME WORRIED, I'VE BEEN TRYING TO FIGURE OUT WHY YOU'RE SO DISSATISFIED LATELY!...IS IT ME?
NO, FRAN! YOU'RE WONDERFUL! I LOVE YOU! I GUESS IT'S JUST SEEING THOSE VISITORS FROM THE CITY!....LOOK AT THEM...ANY- -THING IS THEIRS....WE SEEM LIKE SUCH FOOLS BY COMPARISON! IT'S HARD TO EXPLAIN!
DARLING WE HAVE OWN LIVES TO FOLLOW...WE HAVE EACH OTHER! THAT'S ENOUGH FOR ME!...HOW ABOUT YOU?
I S'POSE! LET'S NOT TALK ABOUT IT ANYMORE! LET'S GO HOME....I'M HUNGRY!
2

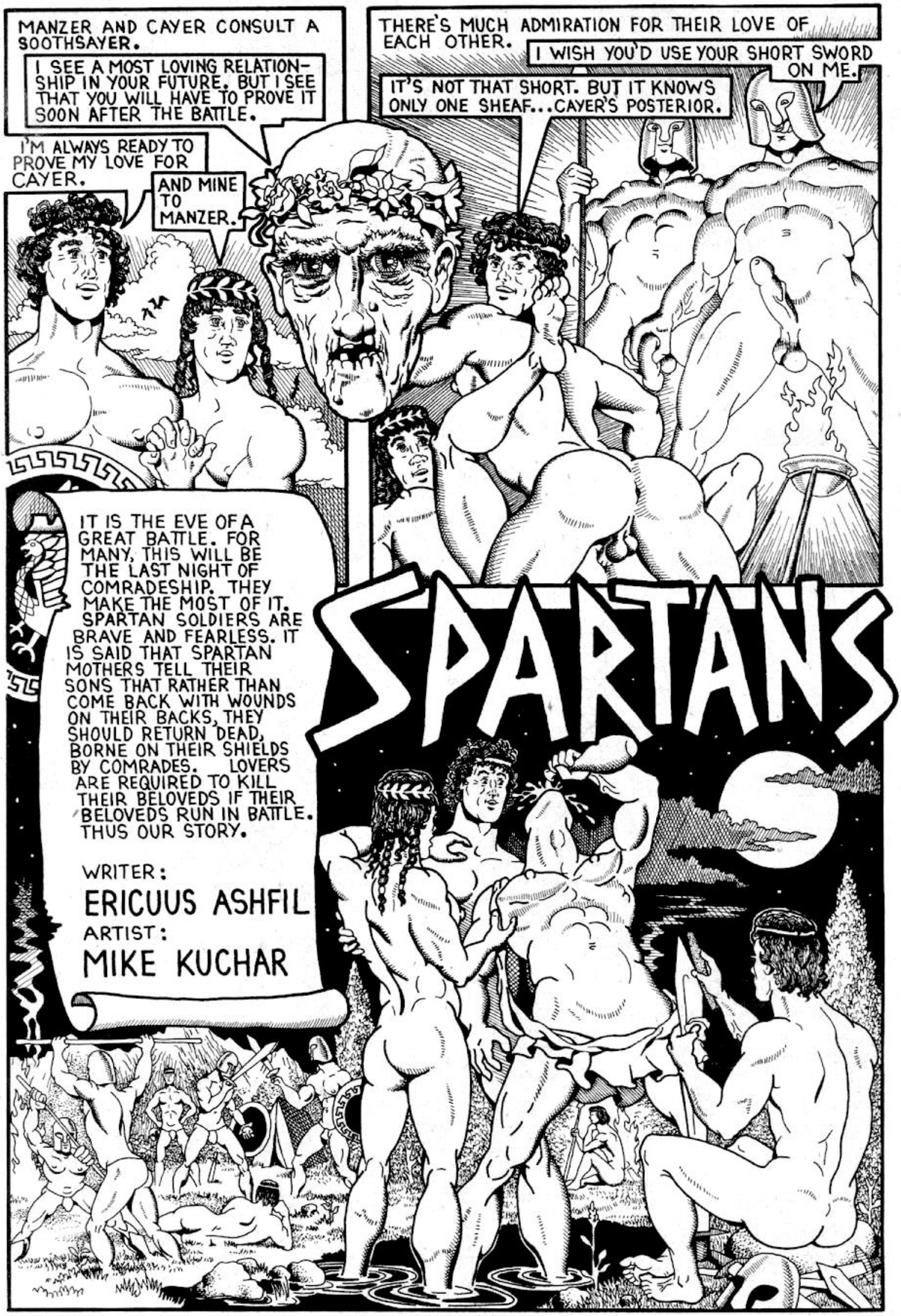
LATER THAT NIGHT, FRANCINE AND I REAFFIRM OUR LOVE AND I AM AS USUAL, CARRIED AWAY BY AN ALL CONSUMING PASSION...
...SIX TIMES SIX = THIRTY TWO - (GRUNT) SIX TIMES SEVEN.. (GASP) FORTY-TWO
!!! OH BUDDEE!!! I-I LOVE YOU SO...I DO GASP!!
THE NEXT MORNING ON THE DOCKS, AS I'M PREPARING TO GO OUT FOR THE DAY...
GOOD MORNING YOU'RE BUDDIE WHITLOCK, AREN'T YOU?
I UNDERSTAND THAT YOU KNOW THE WATERS AROUND HERE LIKE A NATIVE FISH!
GORDON ASQUIRE III - OF THE EXTREMELY WEALTHY ASQUIRES - IS THE NAME! I'M WONDERING...
... COULD YOU ACT AS GUIDE FOR ME AND MY PARTY AROUND THESE ISLANDS? I'M LOOKING FOR SOME NEW FISHING SPOTS!
I GUESS SO — FISHING IS ABOUT THE ONLY THING THAT GOES ON AROUND HERE!
TWO HOURS LATER...
IT'S A BEAUTIFUL DAY, ISN'T IT?
THIS WHOLE AREA SEEMS TO HAVE CORNERED THE MARKET ON BEAUTY!
EVERYTHING AROUND HERE IS BEAUTIFUL! ESPECIALLY THE PEOPLE...
MOST OF YOUR FRESH-WATER FISH RUN OUT BY THE POINT...
...PARTICULARLY THE MEN...GORGEOUS!!
...WE'D BETTER HEAD OVER IN THAT DIRECTION...T-TO THE PORT SIDE OF THE COVE.

YOU SNEAKIN' PERVERT...!!
THIS IS THE END OF THE LINE!!
IF YOU THINK I'M GOING TO STAND FOR THAT KIND A SHIT—Y-YOU'RE CRAZY!
...JUST REMEMBER, I'M SHOWING YOU NEW FISHING GROUNDS AND THAT'S IT!
IT'S TOO BAD YOU'RE SO SENSITIVE, BUDDIE! I COULD TEACH YOU PLENTY ABOUT LIFE! I'VE SEEN IT ALL!
SAVE YOUR BREATH! YOU'RE A SICK PERSON... GET YOURSELF ANOTHER BOY!
HOWEVER THE NEXT MORNING FINDS US CONFRONTING EACH OTHER AGAIN...
YOU COME NEAR ME WITH ANY FOOLISHNESS AND I'LL KILL YOU!
ALLRIGHT, MR. WHITLOCK, TRUCE!
BUT YOU DO INTRIGUE ME! YOU'RE SO DIFFERENT FROM ANYONE I'VE EVER MET...!
I WONDER HOW IT WOULD BE IF WE MET IN MY CROWD?
I'D DO ALRIGHT! YOUR CROWD DOESN'T SCARE ME. THERE'S A THIN VENEER OF CIVILIZATION IN THIS TOWN!
PERHAPS!
4

ER—WELL—I-I GUESS I'LL THINK ABOUT IT!
A NEW LIFE BECKONED TO ME AND INWARDLY I WAS PLEASED—HOWEVER LATER THAT EVENING...
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
BUDDIE, ITS FINALLY HAPPENED!!
WHY DON'T YOU LEAVE THIS TANKTOWN AND COME TO THE CITY? MY THEATRICAL TALENT AGENCY COULD USE A NEW FACE!
WHY, YOUR MASTER'S LICENSE! THE RESULTS OF THE EXAM WERE POSTED TODAY AND YOU PASSED, SILLY! NOW WE CAN GET MARRIED!
I'VE GOT A CHANCE TO WORK IN THE CITY— IT'S A BIG OPPORTUNITY!
YEH! "NOW WE CAN...GET MARRIED!?"
BUDDIE! WHAT'S THE MATTER? DID I SAY SOMETHING WRONG? YOU DON'T SEEM VERY PLEASED!
I JUST DON'T THINK THAT A MARRIAGE WOULD WORK FOR ME RIGHT NOW!
JUST WHAT ARE YOU TRYING TO PROVE? IS THIS SILLY INFERIORITY OBSESSION OF YOURS IMPORTANT ENOUGH TO COME BETWEEN US?
FRAN, YOU WERE RAISED AMONG THE WEALTHY—YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT IT'S LIKE TO KNOW NOTHING BUT THIS MISERABLE LITTLE VILLAGE!
DAMMIT, FRANCINE, YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND! I WANT TO BE SOMEBODY! INSTEAD OF JUST ANOTHER SMALLTOWN HICK!!
I-I'M SORRY... BUT I CAN'T CONTINUE THRU LIFE LIKE THIS!
I'M SORRY, TOO, BUDDIE! SOME PEOPLE SEARCH ALL THEIR LIVES FOR WHAT WE HAVE HAD! I ONLY HOPE YOU CAN AFFORD THE LOSS!

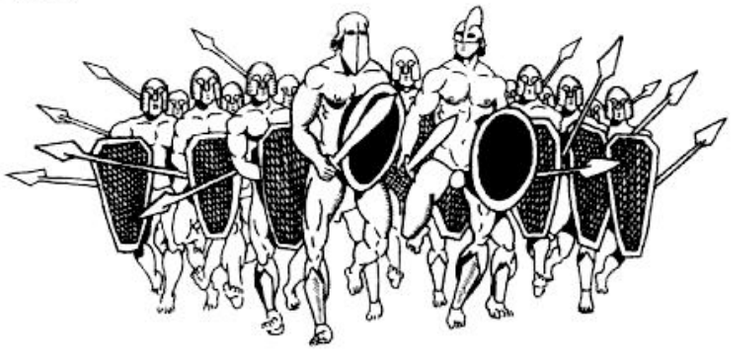
WITHIN THE NEXT FEW WEEKS I WAS ASSAULTING THE BIG CITY WITH HIGH HOPES AND STRONG DETERMINATION...
CLARENCE, THE AGENCY IS INTERESTED IN THIS YOUNG MAN! SEE TO HIS TRAINING PERSONALLY, WILL YOU?
WHY CERTAINLY, MR. ASQUIRE!
I'LL DO EVERYTHING IN MY POWER TO HAVE OUR YOUNG MR. WHITLOCK UNDERSTAND THE REWARDS OF OUR PROFESSION... AND ITS PITFALLS!
I SUPPOSE THAT LAST REMARK SHOULD HAVE WARNED ME! BUT, THEN, HOW DO YOU WARN A POTENTIAL STAR?
AT FIRST, IT HARDLY MATTERED THAT ALL MY PHOTOGRAPHY SESSIONS SEEMED TO END UP ON THE SAME THEME.....
BESIDES, NOW I WAS MAKING MORE MONEY IN ONE HOUR THAN I MADE IN ONE MONTH AS A FISHERMAN!
HOWEVER, AFTER A STEADY DIET OF CHA-CHA STAKE, I BEGAN TO WONDER IF THE PRICE I WAS PAYING FOR THE GOOD LIFE WASN'T A BIT EXCESSIVE...

EVENTUALLY CAME THE STRAW THAT BROKE THE CAMEL'S BACK
BUDDIE, COME IN HERE A MOMENT, WILL YOU?
SURE THING, WHAT'S UP?
MAX EBERLING'S THEATRICAL ENTERPRISES IS INTERESTED IN USING YOU FOR SOME OF THEIR NEWER PROPERTIES!
MAX SAW SOME OF THE WORK YOU DID FOR US AND WAS QUITE IMPRESSED. SO IMPRESSED, AS A MATTER OF FACT, THAT HE WANTS YOU TO SPEND THE WEEK END WITH HIM!
COULD MEAN A GREAT DEAL TO YOUR CAREER, KID! YOU KNOW HOW IT IS IN THIS BUSINESS... TO GET AHEAD, Y'GOTTA GIVE UP HEAD...
...BUT THINGS HAVEN'T CHANGED WITH ME— I'M STRAIGHT— I'M NO QUEER AND I'M CERTAINLY NO STAGE STRUCK WHORE! I DON'T NEED THIS— I'VE GOT A LUCRATIVE FISHING BUSINESS AND A TEMPORARILY SHATTERED RELATIONSHIP TO RETURN TO!
WHAT THE HELL DO YOU THINK I AM? SURE, I'VE DONE SOME PRETTY OUTLANDISH THINGS —SUPPOSEDLY FOR THE SAKE OF MY CAREER!
IT'S TOO BAD YOU FEEL THAT WAY, KID! YOU HAD THE POSSIBILITIES OF A COMFORTABLE LIFE! BUT, IF THAT'S THE WAY YOU WANT IT... I HOPE YOU FIND EVERYTHING THE WAY YOU EXPECT IT!
AS IT TURNED OUT, THINGS HADN'T CHANGED DRASTICALLY. AFTER I'D LEFT, FRAN, FOR SOME REASON, TOOK UP WITH A RICH TOURIST— SHE'S NOW LIVING IN ACAPULCO— AS MRS. GORDON ASQUIRE III! AND STRANGELY ENOUGH, EVERY ONCE IN A WHILE, I GET THE URGE FOR SOME STRANGE STUFF (LIKE SEAFOOD) BUT THEN THAT'S NO PROBLEM FOR A STRAIGHT GUY LIKE ME...
HI, SAILOR-BOY. NEW IN TOWN?
DESIGNED AND WRITTEN BY WILEY SPADE
FINISHED BY DAN BOLD
THAT'S YOUNG WHITLOCK! WENT TO THE CITY AWHILE BACK! HE SURE COME BACK LOOKIN' CITIFIED!
MUSTA HAD HISSELF A GAY OL' TIME!


MANZER AND CAYER CONSULT A SOOTHSAYER.
I SEE A MOST LOVING RELATIONSHIP IN YOUR FUTURE. BUT I SEE THAT YOU WILL HAVE TO PROVE IT SOON AFTER THE BATTLE.
I'M ALWAYS READY TO PROVE MY LOVE FOR CAYER.
AND MINE TO MANZER.
THERE'S MUCH ADMIRATION FOR THEIR LOVE OF EACH OTHER.
I WISH YOU'D USE YOUR SHORT SWORD ON ME.
IT'S NOT THAT SHORT. BUT IT KNOWS ONLY ONE SHEAF...CAYER'S POSTERIOR.
IT IS THE EVE OF A GREAT BATTLE. FOR MANY, THIS WILL BE THE LAST NIGHT OF COMRADESHIP. THEY MAKE THE MOST OF IT. SPARTAN SOLDIERS ARE BRAVE AND FEARLESS. IT IS SAID THAT SPARTAN MOTHERS TELL THEIR SONS THAT RATHER THAN COME BACK WITH WOUNDS ON THEIR BACKS, THEY SHOULD RETURN DEAD, BORNE ON THEIR SHIELDS BY COMRADES. LOVERS ARE REQUIRED TO KILL THEIR BELOVEDS IF THEIR BELOVEDS RUN IN BATTLE. THUS OUR STORY.
WRITER:
ERICUUS ASHFIL
ARTIST:
MIKE KUCHAR
SPARTANS

GRANOLU, DEBAUCHER OF A THOUSAND VIRGINS, HAS SWORN TO BLOT OUT SPARTA FROM THE FACE OF THE EARTH. HE HAS A THOUSAND BARBARIANS WHO ARE DELIGHTED TO HELP HIM. IN THEIR VILLAGE, MEN WHO LOVE MEN ARE EXECUTED. ON THE BATTLE FIELD, THE BARBARIANS WILL INSERT THEIR FLESHY DAGGERS INTO WOMAN OR MAN, CHILD OR HORSE.

MANZER KNOWS HIS TROOPS ARE AT A DISADVANTAGE. THE BARBARIANS HAVE THE HIGH GROUND AND TWICE HIS NUMBERS. BUT SPARTAN TROOPS ARE TOUGH AND HAVE ORGANIZATION. MANZER KNOWS THAT IF EACH MAN KEEPS HIS PLACE AND HIS COURAGE, SPARTA WILL HAVE THE DAY.



IN ANOTHER AGE, THIS WOULD BE CALLED A POLICE ACTION. FOR MANZER AND HIS MEN, IT IS THE PROTECTION OF CIVILIZATION. THE BARBARIANS HAVE TOO LONG RAIDED THESE PARTS, CARRYING AWAY CATTLE AND WOMEN (CONSIDERED ABOUT THE SAME VALUE IN SPARTA.

MANZER DOES NOT WANT FOR COURAGE.

CAYER IS NOT VERY STRONG...

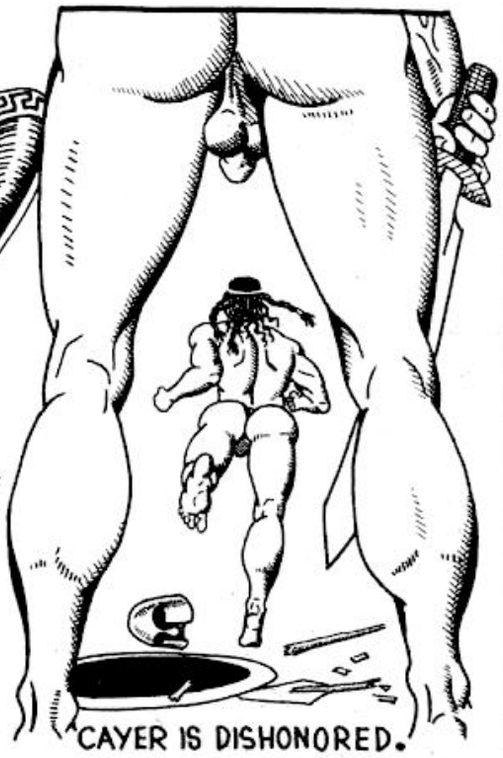
...BUT HE DOES NOT WANT FROM LACK OF TRAINING.

GRANOLU ENGAGES IN A LITTLE DISTRACTION TO EASE THE MONOTONY OF BATTLE.

AFTER THE INITIAL SURGE, THE BARBARIANS HAVE BROKEN THE GREEK RANKS.
MANZER EXPERTLY REFORMS THEM.

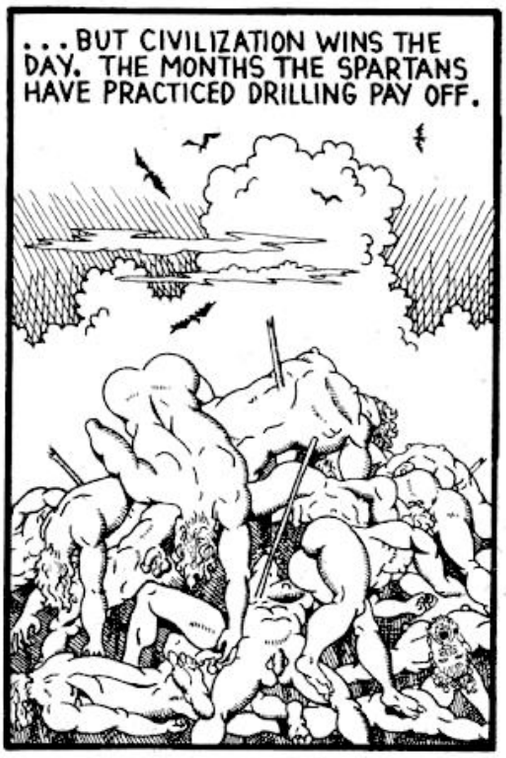
CAYER IS A LITTLE SLOW IN HEARING THE CALL OF MANZER. HE FINDS HIMSELF ALONE FACING THE BARBARIAN LEADER.

CAYER IS NOT MUCH OF A MATCH FOR THE GIANT GRANOLU.



CAYER IS DISHONORED.

...BUT CIVILIZATION WINS THE DAY. THE MONTHS THE SPARTANS HAVE PRACTICED DRILLING PAY OFF.



MANZER RESPECTS COURAGE. GRANOLU HAS SHOWN A GREAT DEAL. MANZER OFFERS HIM HIS LIFE IF GRANOLU CAN KILL HIM IN SINGLE COMBAT. GRANOLU IS PLEASED AT THIS NOBLE GESTURE. HE PROMISES TO OBLIGE HIM.

ALL THE COURAGE IN THE WORLD WILL NOT SAVE A WARRIOR FROM A BETTER TRAINED MAN OF EQUAL COURAGE. MANZER PROVES HIS WORTH.

THIS IS CARLSEY, MY LOVER. HE BROKE RANKS AND FLED. I CLAIM THE RIGHT TO KILL HIM.
I SEE A MOST LOVING RELATIONSHIP IN YOUR FUTURE. BUT I SEE THAT YOU WILL HAVE TO PROVE IT SOON AFTER THE BATTLE.
IT IS YOUR RIGHT, MILOV.
THE SOLDIER EXERCISES HIS RIGHT
I SAW CAYER RUN FROM BATTLE TODAY. IS YOUR JUSTICE FOR HIM TOO?
AYE. I SAW HIM RUN TOO.
JUSTICE IS FOR EVERY MAN. BRING HIM TO ME.
HE HAS RUN AWAY.
MANZER DOES NOT HAVE TO BE TOLD HIS DUTY. HE WILL HUNT CAYER DOWN HIMSELF.

MANZER SEARCHES THROUGH THE NIGHT. THERE IS NO QUESTION THAT HE'LL FIND HIS LOVER. HE KNOWS HOW CAYER THINKS.
CAYER IS MAKING HIS FUNERAL SACRIFICE. HE KNOWS MANZER MUST FIND HIM.
I SENSE YOUR PRESENSE MY LOVER. BEFORE I DIE, SHOW ME YOU LOVE ME. THEN I WILL CROSS THE DARK RIVER HAPPY.
YOU SHOULD NOT HAVE LIT A FIRE TO HELP ME FIND YOU. YOU'VE FORCED MY DUTY APON ME.
MANZER SHOWS HIS LOVE FOR CAYER.
NOT ALL DUTIES ARE PLEASANT.
THE END